

Salix maccalliana Rowlee
MacCall's willow
Salicaceae (Willow Family)

Status: State Sensitive
Rank: G5?S1

General Description: Upright shrubs 1½ to 6½ feet (½ to 2 m) tall with dark purplish or reddish brown branches; twigs dark brown to purplish, hairy when young but becoming hairless; leaves bright green and shiny with a stout yellowish midrib, elliptic-lanceolate to oblong, up to 3 in. (8 cm) long by 1 in. (2½ cm) wide but usually smaller, finely scalloped or toothed along the margins, hairless when mature; stipules minute or absent; bracts of both male and female catkins yellow to brownish, hairy at the base but not at the tip; male flowers with 2 stamens that are hairy below; fruits covered with dense curly white hairs, on a stipe up to 1/16 in. (2 mm) long.

Identification Tips: *Salix maccalliana* is most closely related to *S. pseudomyrsinites*, *S. boothii*, and *S. myrtillofolia*. These species can be distinguished by the nature of their ovaries and leaves. The ovaries of *S. maccalliana* are hairy, and its leaves are leathery. The ovaries of *S. pseudomyrsinites*, *S. boothii*, and *S. myrtillofolia* are smooth and their leaves are thin.

Phenology: Catkins develop with the leaves in May.

Range: This species is widely scattered from the Pacific Northwest Coast and Cascade Ranges eastward across Canada to Quebec and in the Yukon Territory. The species is peripheral within Pend Oreille and Stevens counties in northeastern Washington.

Habitat: *Salix maccalliana* occurs in bogs, fens, swamps, and marshes in open, low-lying sites. In Washington, the species has been found growing in peaty soils at 2400 to 3000 feet (730 to 912 m) in elevation.

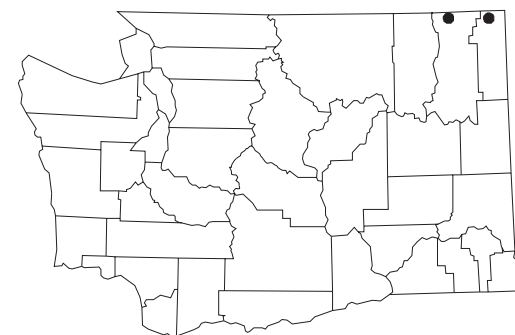
Ecology: Willows are characteristically associated with moist habitats in cool northern latitudes. In Washington, *S. maccalliana* is restricted to hummocks in areas with an undulating microtopography. One Washington population is in an area that was previously burned, suggesting that the local fire regime may have played a role in shaping plant habitat in this region.

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Known distribution
of *Salix maccalliana*
in Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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Photo by Barb Benner



Photo by Barb Benner



Bureau of Land Management Photo

2003 Produced as part of a cooperative project between the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Natural Heritage Program and the U.S.D.I. Bureau of Land Management. Persons needing this information in an alternative format, call (360) 902-1600 or TTY (360) 902-1125.

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State Status Comments: Two recent records are known from Pend Oreille and Stevens Counties in Washington.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed.

Threats and Management Concerns: Hydrologic changes from local beaver activity and forest fires threaten this species.

Comments: A description of *S. maccalliana* cannot be found in Hitchcock. See Douglas et al. (1998) for a description.

References:

Brayshaw, T.C. 1976. *Catkin Bearing Plants (Amentiferae) of British Columbia*. Occasional Papers of the British Columbia Provincial Museum. 18: 25-79.

Douglas, G.W., G.B. Straley, D. Meidinger, and J. Pojar. 1998. *Illustrated Flora of British Columbia* vol. 5: *Dicotyledons (Salicaceae Through Zygophyllaceae)*. Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Victoria, British Columbia. 389 pp.

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